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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/881,225	06/12/2001	Tomasz J. Goldman	08204/0203162-US0	7562

38878 7590 02/21/2008

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EXAMINER	
BHATIA, AJAY M	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2145	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
02/21/2008	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/881,225	GOLDMAN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	AJAY BHATIA	2145	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *02 August 2007*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *5/22/2007*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____ .

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 7-12 are recites the limitation "computer readable medium" in line 1. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Specification does not defined computer readable medium.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Blumenau et al. (U.S. Patent 6,799,255) referred to as (Blumenau-1).

For claim 1, Blumenau-1 teaches, a method comprising:

detecting attachment of a shared resource to a server; (Blumenau-1, Col. 12 lines 30-55, searches for nodes)

automatically querying if the shared resource is associated with a share indicator stored at the server; (Blumenau-1, Col. 14 lines 55-67, private/shared flag, Col. 13 line 56 to Col. 14 line 10, WWN)

applying share allocation defined by the share indicator if the share indicator is present the server; (Blumenau-1, Col. 14 lines 55-67, private/shared flag) and

if the shared resource is unassociated with the share indicator, automatically creating a share file at the server that enables identification and automatically allocating sharing of the unassociated shared resource. (Blumenau-1, Col. 12 lines 29-57, assigned by the fabric, Col. 16 lines 15-49, directories)

For claim 2, Blumenau-1 teaches, the method of Claim 1 wherein querying further comprises;

determining if a share directory is present on the shared resource; (Blumenau-1, Col. 18 lines 35-50, paragraph 11) and

determining if a share file is in the share directory. (Blumenau-1, Col. 18 lines 35-50, paragraph 11)

For claim 4, Blumenau-1 teaches, the method of Claim 1 further comprising:

creating a share indicator on the shared resource if the share indicator is not present. (Blumenau-1, Col. 15 lines 1-15, private/share flag)

For claim 5, Blumenau-1 teaches, the method of Claim 4 wherein creating comprises:
creating a share directory on the shared resource; (Blumenau-1, Col. 18 lines 35-50, paragraph 11) and
creating a share file in the share directory. (Blumenau-1, Col. 18 lines 35-50, paragraph 11)

For claim 7, Blumenau-1 teaches, a computer readable storage media containing executable computer program instructions which when executed cause a digital processing system to perform a method comprising:
detecting attachment of a shared resource to a server; (Blumenau-1, Col. 12 lines 30-55, searches for nodes)
automatically querying if the shared resource is associated with a share indicator stored at the server; (Blumenau-1, Col. 14 lines 55-67, private/shared flag, Col. 13 line 56 to Col. 14 line 10, WWN) and
applying share allocation defined by the share indicator if the share indicator is present at the server; (Blumenau-1, Col. 14 lines 55-67, private/shared flag, Col. 13 line 56 to Col. 14 line 10, WWN)

and if the shared resource is unassociated with the share indicator, automatically creating a share file at the server that enables identification and automatically allocating

sharing of the unassociated shared resource. (Blumenau-1, Col. 12 lines 29-57, assigned by the fabric, Col. 16 lines 15-49, directories)

For claim 8, Blumenau-1 teaches, the computer readable storage media of Claim 7 which when executed cause a digital processing system to perform a method further comprising:
determining if a share directory is present on the shared resource; (Blumenau-1, Col. 18 lines 35-50, paragraph 11) and
determining if a share file is in the share directory. (Blumenau-1, Col. 18 lines 35-50, paragraph 11)

For claim 10, Blumenau-1 teaches, the computer readable storage media of Claim 7 which when executed cause a digital processing system to perform a method further comprising:
creating a share indicator on the shared resource if the share indicator is not present. (Blumenau-1, Col. 15 lines 1-15, private/share flag)

For claim 11, Blumenau-1 teaches, the computer readable storage media of Claim 10 which when executed cause a digital processing system to perform a method further comprising:
creating a share directory on the shared resource; (Blumenau-1, Col. 18 lines 35-50, paragraph 11) and

creating a share file in the share directory. (Blumenau-1, Col. 18 lines 35-50, paragraph 11)

For claim 19, Blumenau-1 teaches, a method comprising:

maintaining a descriptor table on a server in a non-volatile memory for a plurality of known devices; (Blumenau-1, Col. 16 lines 50-67, volume access table)

detecting attachment of a device to the server; (Blumenau-1, Col. 12 lines 30-55, searches for nodes)

determining if the device is one of the plurality of known devices; (Blumenau-1, Col. 14 lines 55-67, private/shared flag, Col. 16 lines 50-67, volume access table) and

applying a share allocation from the descriptor table upon attachment if the device is one of the plurality of known devices; (Blumenau-1, Col. 16 lines 15-49, directories)

if the device is determined to be an unknown device, automatically creating a share entry in the descriptor table that enable identification and automatically allocating sharing of the unknown device. (Blumenau-1, Col. 12 lines 29-57, assigned by the fabric, Col. 16 lines 15-49, directories)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the

invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 3, 6, 9, and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Blumenau-1 in view of Blumenau et al. (U.S. Patent 6,665,714) referred to as Blumenau-2.

For claim 3, Blumenau-1 teaches, the method of Claim 2 wherein queuing further comprises; (Blumenau-1, Col. 18 lines 35-50, paragraph 11)
Blumenau-1 fails to clearly teach,
determining if a checksum file exists in the share directory; and
validating a checksum in the checksum file.

determining if a checksum file exists in the share directory; (Blumenau-2, Col. 6 lines 42-61) and
validating a checksum in the checksum file. (Blumenau-2, Col. 16 lines 28-40)

Blumenau-1 and Blumenau-2 are both in the field of remote storage access

Blumenau-1 and Blumenau-2 are compatible

It would be obvious of one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to implement the combination of Blumenau-1 and Blumenau-2 because the addition of a

checksum would insure security and make sure data is not corrupt (Blumenau-2, Col. 16 line 21)

For claim 6, Blumenau-2 teaches, the method of Claim 5 wherein creating further comprises:
creating a checksum file in the share directory; (Blumenau-2, Col. 6 lines 42-61, Col. 16 lines 28-40) and
writing a checksum in the checksum file. (Blumenau-2, Col. 6 lines 42-61, Col. 16 lines 28-40)

Blumenau-1, fails to disclose checksum

Blumenau-1 and Blumenau-2 are both in the field of remote storage access

Blumenau-1 and Blumenau-2 are compatible

It would be obvious of one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to implement the combination of Blumenau-1 and Blumenau-2 because the addition of a checksum would insure security and make sure data is not corrupt (Blumenau-2, Col. 16 line 21)

For claim 9, Blumenau-2 teaches, the computer readable storage media of Claim 8 which when executed cause a digital processing system to perform a method further comprising:

determining if a checksum file exists in the share directory; (Blumenau-2, Col. 6 lines 42-61) and

validating a checksum in the checksum file. (Blumenau-2, Col. 16 lines 28-40)

Blumenau-1, fails to disclose checksum

Blumenau-1 and Blumenau-2 are both in the field of remote storage access

Blumenau-1 and Blumenau-2 are compatible

It would be obvious of one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to implement the combination of Blumenau-1 and Blumenau-2 because the addition of a checksum would insure security and make sure data is not corrupt (Blumenau-2, Col. 16 line 21)

For claim 12, Blumenau-2 teaches, the computer readable storage media of Claim 11 which when executed cause a digital processing system to perform a method further comprising:

creating a checksum file in the share directory; (Blumenau-1, Col. 6 lines 42-61, Col. 16 lines 28-40) and

writing a checksum in the checksum file. (Blumenau-1, Col. 6 lines 42-61, Col. 16 lines 28-40)

Blumenau-1, fails to disclose checksum

Blumenau-1 and Blumenau-2 are both in the field of remote storage access

Blumenau-1 and Blumenau-2 are compatible

It would be obvious of one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to implement the combination of Blumenau-1 and Blumenau-2 because the addition of a checksum would insure security and make sure data is not corrupt (Blumenau-2, Col. 16 line 21)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 13-15 and 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Blumenau-1 in view of Russell (U.S. Patent 5,841,991).

For claim 13, Blumenau-1 teaches, a system comprising:

a processor; (Blumenau-1, Col. 9 lines 26-50, processor)

a non-volatile storage unit coupled to the processor, the non-volatile storage unit to store a descriptor table having an entry identifying share allocation for a known (Blumenau-1, Col. 16 lines 50-67, volume access table) and
a memory coupled to the processor to store a shared resource table to identify share allocation of shared devices coupled to the system, wherein if an unknown device is coupled to the system, the processor automatically creates a share file in the shared resource table that enables identification and automatically allocates sharing of the unknown device. (Blumenau-1, Col. 12 lines 29-57, assigned by the fabric, Col. 16 lines 15-49, directories)

Blumenau-1 fails to disclose, storage free device

Russell teaches, store a descriptor table having an entry identifying share allocation for a known storage free device; and (Russell, Col. 4 lines 31-53)

Blumenau-1 and Russel are both in the field of shared devices

Blumenau-1 and Russel are compatible

It would be obvious of one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the system of Blumenau with the method of Russell because it allows the

peripheral to be a responsive, intelligent member of a network. (see Russell, Col. 2 lines 20-24)

For claim 14, Blumenau-1 teaches, the system of Claim 13 further comprising: a writable shared resource coupled to the processor, the writable shared resource containing a share directory. (Blumenau-1, Col. 18 lines 35-50, paragraph 11)

For claim 17, Blumenau-1 teaches, the system of Claim 13 further comprising: a read only shared resource wherein the processor detects connection of the a read only shared resource and automatically adds an entry to the descriptor table responsive to the connection. (Blumenau-1, Col. 18 lines 35-50, paragraph 11, Col. 19 lines 3-30, read/write controls)

For claim 18, Blumenau-1 teaches, the system of Claim 13 further comprising: a writable shared resource wherein the processor detects connection of the writable shared resource and automatically adds an entry to the shared resources table responsive to the connection. (Blumenau-1, Col. 18 lines 35-50, paragraph 11, Col. 19 lines 3-30, read/write controls)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Blumenau-1-Russell in view of Blumenau et al. (U.S. Patent 6,665,714) referred to as Blumenau-2.

For claim 15, Blumenau-1 teaches, the system of Claim 14 wherein the share directory contains:

a share file; (Blumenau-1, Col. 18 lines 35-50, paragraph 11) and

Blumenau-1-Russell fail to teach, check sum

a check sum file. (Blumenau-2, Col. 6 lines 42-61, Col. 16 lines 28-40)

Blumenau-1-Russell and Blumenau-2 are both in the field of remote storage access

Blumenau-1-Russell and Blumenau-2 are compatible

It would be obvious of one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to implement the combination of Blumenau-1 and Blumenau-2 because the addition of a checksum would insure security and make sure data is not corrupt (Blumenau-2, Col. 16 line 21)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Blumenau in view of Fisher (U.S. Patent 6,513,101).

Blumenau-1 fails to clearly disclose, not present for a period of time

Blumenau-1 and Fisher are both in the field of remote storage

Blumenau-1 and Fisher are compatible

For claim 16, Blumenau-1 teaches, the system of Claim 13 wherein the processor ages out the entry if the known device is not present for a period of time (Fisher, Col. 7 lines 6-20)

It would be obvious of one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the system of Blumenau with the method of Fisher because Fisher describes a storage library manger witch reduces the amount of wasted space. (Fisher, Col. 2 lines 16-20 and Col. 2 lines 40-44)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Blumenau-1 in view of Fisher (U.S. Patent 6,513,101).

Blumenau-1 fails to clearly disclose, detached for a period of time

Blumenau-1 and Fisher are both in the field of remote storage

Blumenau-1 and Fisher are compatible

Fisher teaches, the method of Claim 19 further comprising:
aging out entries from the descriptor table after a corresponding known device has been detached for a period of time. (Fisher, Col. 7 lines 6-20)

It would be obvious of one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the system of Blumenau with the method of Fisher because Fisher describes a storage library manger witch reduces the amount of wasted space. (Fisher, Col. 2 lines 16-20 and Col. 2 lines 40-44)

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See attached Notice of references cited (if appropriate).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ajay M. Bhatia whose telephone number is (571)-272-

3906. Also any interview requests should be faxed directly to the examiner at (571)-273-3906. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jason Cardone can be reached on (571)272-3933. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Jason D Cardone/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2145